

MERCER COUNTY SHARES IN THE PROSPERITY TIDE

Keeping Step With March of Progress

Business Interests Are Found Engaged in the Most Extensive Trade of their Career in Every Field

This Section Is Richly and Most Generously Endowed, Live Business Men, Ample Financial Resources and a Generous People—Compilation Made Reveals Our Enterprising and Progressive Business Men in Every Section of the Best County, in the Best State, in the Best Country the Sun Ever Shown On.

Rich in soil, picturesque topographically, well watered with running streams, prairies thoroughly drained and transportation facilities unsurpassed, Mercer County can truthfully lay claim to the title: "The Garden Spot of Ohio." It lies in the greatest State in the union, is as fertile a section as is out of doors anywhere on earth, and its people the prosperous, happy and contented. The experiences of the pioneers who lighted civilization's first fires in this land and who hewed their homes from the primeval forests that covered the county have been the subjects of continued interest to all the readers of American history through the many years that have elapsed since the landing of our forefathers.

The Democrat, with the enthusiastic aid and co-operation of the citizens, industries and business houses of Mercer County is sending a message to the public, a message of pluck, enterprise and achievement. It is Mercer county's answer to the universal inquiry, the persistent question that is asked: "How is Mercer County Doing?"

And this is not an ideal question. Today Mercer County stands on the solid rock of conservative progress, perhaps stronger than any other community in this section of the United States. Our financial institutions have been pillars of strength and confidence, with a clean record from top to bottom through the smashing blows of financial depression and war. Can any section in the United States surpass our record?

Again, every department of civic and social life has kept step in the march of confidence and progress. The homes of Mercer county are more beautiful than ever; civic helpfulness and public spirit which made Mercer County famous are more active and better organized

and more productive and more helpful than ever before.

Our motto is "Full Steam Ahead" and back of this motto which is in practical effect, is the solid foundation of progress, with safety and conservation. Mercer county has great enthusiasm and great vision, but it has never in its splendid record of achievements deceived itself. Today it faces the future not by standing still but by the inspiring spectacle of looking up and marching on, confident of power, of strength, the wealth of this wonderful community, without fear and setting up the beacon lights of the great ship prosperity. An advancing army refuses to retreat. Mercer county neither needs nor wants any trenches, but a broad plain, where beyond is the great dawn of the rising sun of prosperity, progress and happiness. In Mercer County we are not alone seeking commercial success, material progress and financial solidity, but a great deal more. We seek civic beauty, safety and the best fields for the joy of living, that inspiration of helpfulness, the enthusiasm of an unselfish public service, and an unbounded and ever increasing devotion to the public welfare.

Mercer county has everything that other progressive American communities have and more. It has a heart, great pulsating organism always keeping step, in fact a little in advance of the solid, material march to bigger things. It is the heart of ambition and enthusiasm that like stirring music, inspires and quickens the step of the rank and file. This is one of the big reasons why Mercer county today, neither boastful nor assuming a false modesty, proclaims her achievements, her powerful position, her respectful self confidence, her pride in the structure that she has created in the "Garden Spot of Ohio," armed as she has been with a great faith, a strong arm and a vision both clear and true.

a revolver in the hands of Miss Margaret Winder, seventeen. Police are holding the girl, but no charge has been placed against her. Sergeant Charles Spicer reported the shooting as accidental to Major G. W. Cunningham.

Daughter Kills Father.
Cleveland, April 25.—Domestic trouble led to the death of Ludwig Meir, fifty-three, at his home near Cleveland. Ruth Meir, twenty-one, his daughter, is said to have shot and killed Meir when she discovered him chasing her brother John, sixteen, in the yard and trying unsuccessfully to fire a revolver at him. It is said that Meir had been on a rampage.

Two Weeks' Strike Ended.
Bellair, O., April 25.—Fires were lighted at the Yorkville (O.) plant of the Wheeling Steel and Iron company, following the ending of a two weeks' strike at midnight. It is estimated that during the two weeks the production of enough material has been held up daily to make 2,000,000 tin cans.

High School Girl Missing.
Kenia, O., April 25.—Search is being made for eighteen-year-old Margaret Poland, Kenia high school girl, who left her classroom on receipt of a long distance call stating her mother was ill in Dayton. Mrs. Poland advances a theory that her daughter may possibly have married.

Two Men Crushed.
Findlay, O., April 25.—Roscoe Johnson, twenty-two, is dead and Harry Williams is seriously injured as the result of a motor truck turning over near this city. They were returning from Toledo. Johnson was taken to a hospital and died in a few hours from internal hemorrhages.

Failed to Pass Examination.
Canton, O., April 24.—Worry over his failure to pass the examination which would admit him to the ranks of the United States army caused August A. Anderson, thirty-four, a Swede, to commit suicide in his rooming house here by slashing his throat with a razor.

Another Regiment Wanted.
Columbus, April 25.—Governor Cox requested Secretary of War Baker to call out another regiment of the Ohio national guard to guard industrial plants engaged in federal service. Two regiments, the Third, Dayton, and Sixth, Toledo, now are doing federal duty in Ohio.

Alleged Check Worker.
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Woman Believed Murdered.
Toledo, O., April 25.—The body of an unidentified woman about thirty years old was taken from the Maumee river here. It had been in the water several days. Bruises about the face caused police to believe the woman was murdered. She was well dressed.

Two Men Killed at Crossing.
Barberton, O., April 24.—Francis Holmes, sixty-four, and his nephew, Francis Holmes, Jr., were instantly killed, and Mrs. Agnes Holmes, a daughter-in-law, was probably fatally injured when the buggy in which they were riding was hit by an Erie train near here.

A bolt of lightning, which struck the barn on the Mrs. Mary Post farm, in Washington township, five miles west of Coldwater, early last Wednesday morning killed two cows and set fire to the barn, which was completely destroyed. The loss is estimated at \$2,000, partly covered by insurance.

Guardman Shot by Girl.
Cleveland, April 26.—Private Bernard Grossell of Defiance, a member of company G, Sixth Ohio infantry, was shot and probably fatally wounded by

Lifeboats Fired On.
London, April 27.—The British steamship Kildale, bound for Malta, was torpedoed in the Mediterranean sea. While the crew was in boats the submarine came to the surface and fired on the boats with a mounted gun and rifles. One member of the crew was killed and eight others wounded.

OHIO HAPPENINGS
Draft Board in Each County.
Cincinnati, April 27.—That the machinery for effective operation of the conscription act has been perfected in Ohio, in co-operation with the federal government, was the announcement of Governor Cox. He said action would be under federal authority, but that the several states would be left to devise the particular method. This would make it "adaptive" and less liable to friction than a rigid system that prevailed uniformly throughout the nation. A draft board in each county of the state is embraced in the Cox plan.

Elyria Lockout Ended.
Elyria, O., April 27.—More than \$1,000,000 worth of building construction in this city was resumed following a settlement of the contractors' two weeks' lockout of 1,000 union workmen. The settlement gives laborers 40 cents, carpenters 60 cents and bricklayers, plasterers and stone masons 70 cents an hour.

Guardman Dies.
Cleveland, April 27.—Private Bernard Grossell of Company G, Sixth Ohio infantry, who was shot by Miss Margaret Winder Wednesday while the girl was handling an automatic pistol, the property of Sergeant Charles Spicer, company C of the same regiment, died in Charity hospital. Spicer is under arrest charged with breach of military discipline.

Ruth Law to Fly.
Cincinnati, April 27.—Negotiations were concluded with Miss Ruth Law, America's premier aviatrix, to give a series of flying exhibitions at the running of the 250 mile international automobile sweepstakes here May 30. Miss Law recently flew from Chicago to New York.

Tippecanoe Votes Dry.
Tippecanoe City, O., April 27.—Tippecanoe City voted dry under the Beal law by a majority of 64. Seven hundred votes were cast. The town went wet two years ago by 20. There are three saloons here.

Lebanon to Remain Wet.
Lebanon, O., April 27.—Voting under the Beal law, Lebanon decided to remain wet by a vote of 482 to 449.

FACES SERIOUS CHARGE
Prominent Cincinnati Is Placed Under Arrest.
Cincinnati, April 27.—Albert Moch, sixty-two, director in a prominent philanthropic organization and retired business man, was arrested on a warrant, charging him with promoting juvenile delinquency. He refused to make a statement. Moch's arrest followed stories told to Juvenile Officer Mary McChristy several days ago by four girl stenographers, all seventeen years old. The girls said they were introduced to Moch by a girl above the juvenile age. Officers are hunting for another man alleged to have been named by one of the girls.

Submarine Situation Grave.
London, April 27.—The frequent claims of Germany that her submarine warfare is succeeding beyond hopes will doubtless be regarded in that country as fully justified as a result of the publication of last week's losses to shipping. Special articles and editorials discuss the outlook with emphasis and, in some cases, extreme gravity.

Individuality
Is Noted in the Millinery from the Establishment of Mrs. Kate Ellis Here in Celina, Who Conducts Northwestern Ohio's Leading Millinery Store.

Individuality and distinctiveness of design is noted in the millinery from the Ellis millinery establishment here in Celina and this in a large degree accounts for the extensive trade of the establishment. All the millinery for the Ellis store comes from the arbiters of fashion of the east and west and many of the hats are of rare beauty. Millinery from this store isn't just ordinary, but has a style of its own. A large spring and summer stock is on hand for the accommodation of the public and no matter whether it is a street, sport or dress hat in any design that you desire you can get it here and it will be becoming and give you caste and good looks. In the event that they do not have exactly what you desire, they can make one up for you according to your individual ideas.

In this department they exercise wonderful taste and it is responsible in a large degree for the excellent patronage of the place. The principle upon which the store is operated is that of furnishing individual and distinctive millinery most reasonably and meeting any and all competition as to styles and prices. This accounts for the fact that the establishment of Mrs. Kate A. Ellis is the mecca for well millinered ladies of Celina and Mercer county.

The Ellis store occupies a fine building that was designed especially for its home and is fitted with all the up-to-date fixtures for the proper display of the most up-to-date line of millinery in western Ohio. We are pleased in this Prosperity Edition to point to this representative establishment as one of the distinctive features of the life of Celina.

LIVESTOCK, GRAIN, WOOL AND PROVISIONS

EAST BUFFALO, April 27.
Cattle—Shipping steers, \$9 25@12 50; butcher steers, \$8 11 25; heifers, \$7 10 75; cows, \$6 25@10; bulls, \$4 80@10; fresh cows and springers, \$6 11 25; calves, \$5 12 50.
Hogs—Heavy, \$16 50@16 65; mixed, \$16 16 25; Yorkers, \$16 16 25; light Yorkers, \$14 50@15 50; pigs, \$12 75@14 25; roughs, \$14 14 25; stags, \$12 12 50.
Receipts—Cattle, 400; hogs, 1,200; sheep and lambs, 1,000; calves, 100.

CHICAGO, April 27.
Cattle—Native beef steers, \$9 12 40; stockers and feeders, \$7 15@10; cows and heifers, \$5 70@11 20; calves, \$8 12 50.
Hogs—Light, \$14 45@15 55; mixed, \$15 25@15 50; heavy, \$15 25@15 50; roughs, \$15 25@15 40; pigs, \$9 55@12 65.
Sheep and Lambs—Wethers, \$10 75@13 10; lambs, \$12 25@16 40.
Receipts—Cattle, 4,000; hogs, 22,000; sheep and lambs, 15,000.

CLEVELAND, April 27.
Cattle—Choice fat steers, \$11 11 75; butcher steers, \$9 25@10 30; heifers, \$9 50 00; bulls, \$9 25@9 75; cows, \$9 50@9 50; calves, \$12 12 75.
Hogs—Yorkers, \$15 75; heavies and mediums, \$16; pigs, \$13 25; roughs, \$14 10; stags, \$12 75.
Sheep and Lambs—Wethers, \$9 10; lambs, \$9 50@13.

PITTSBURGH, April 27.
Cattle—Steers, \$12 25@12 50; heifers, \$9 50@10 50; cows, \$8 75@9 25; top calves, \$12 50.
Hogs—Heavies, \$15 95@16; heavy Yorkers, \$15 50@15 90; light Yorkers, \$14 14 25; pigs, \$12 12 50.
Sheep and Lambs—Top sheep, \$10 75; top lambs, \$13.
Receipts—Hogs, 1,500; sheep and lambs, 600; calves, 300.

CINCINNATI, April 27.
Cattle—Steers, \$7 11 50; heifers, \$7 11 50; cows, \$5 75@9 25; calves, \$6 11 50.
Hogs—Packers and butchers, \$15 25@15 50; common to choice, \$14 14 25; pigs and lights, \$9 14 25; stags, \$8 12 50.
Sheep and Lambs—Sheep, \$8 12 50; lambs, \$12 12 50.

BALTIMORE, April 27.
Butter—Fancy creamery, 45¢@47¢; store packed, 31¢; Ohio rolls, 21¢@22¢.
Eggs—Nearby and western firsts, 31¢; poultry—Chickens, old hens 34¢; old roosters, 33¢@34¢; young (2 pounds and under), 32¢@33¢.

BOSTON, April 27.
Wool—Ohio and Pennsylvania fleeces: Delaine washed, \$9 50@10; combing, \$6 50@6; three-eighths blood combing, \$9 50@10; delaine unwashed, \$4 50@5.

TOLEDO, April 27.
Wheat, \$2 87; corn, \$1 59; oats, 74¢; clover seed, \$10 62.

WHOLE WHEAT FLOUR

Ohio Millers May Follow Lead of National Federation.

Columbus, April 27.—"Millers are just as patriotic as any other class and they are willing to do their bit in the present international crisis just as readily," said Frank H. Tanner, secretary of the Ohio Millers' State association. He made this statement when shown a telegram from Washington that the big milling interests of the country have agreed to aid in saving foodstuffs by milling whole wheat flour. The Ohio millers previously had adopted resolutions against the manufacture of the so-called "war" flour. While not presuming to speak for the Ohio association, Mr. Tanner intimated that Ohio millers, as far as possible, would follow the lead of the federation.

Rheims Cathedral Shelled.
Paris, April 27.—The Germans threw fifteen large caliber shells at the Rheims cathedral, damaging several important parts of the famous monument. Encouraged by their first success, sixteen more heavy shells were thrown upon the vaults and towers. The northern tower suffered most from the shelling and is leaning so that its stability is in grave way at any time.

Remember Clean-up Day.

The Crampton Canning Company

Operating a Large and Model Establishment Here in Celina Packing Corn, Peas and Tomatoes That Go to All Parts of Country, and Are Noted for Their Superiority—Adds to the Agricultural Development of the County.

As the general purpose of this Prosperity review is to give the local and outside world an adequate idea of our industrial progress and the general excellence of the products of the various plants and contributing causes to this prosperity we deem it quite appropriate to devote space to The Crampton and Son Canning Co.

Mr. Crampton operates a model plant here in Celina, packing corn, peas, tomatoes and peaches. The plant is housed in modern factory buildings and the latest of sanitary precautions have been taken to see that the products are the cleanest and best that money can buy. The company has the latest of improved machinery that has been endorsed by the canners of the country and in every way modern and up-to-date. The management has in its employ only men of experience, many of whom have been with them for some time, thus insuring the public of a high quality and uniformity in the output.

At the plant of the Crampton and Son Canning Co., the producer has found the can always secure the highest market prices for corn, peas and tomatoes. Many farmers who have seen their neighbors prospering have found that it is through selling to this company and that their farms are getting better all the time. In addition to being crops that give the producer handsome return in cash upon delivery for his crops they have been found to be excellent rotation crops and a great aid to the farmer in building up his land and increasing the fertility of his soil. The tomatoes furnish a large amount of nitrogen to the soil and by turning the tops under as soon as the crop is removed a large amount of humus is secured. It is a crop that can be cultivated with the corn and is harvested at a time when the farmer has no other crop coming off. We would suggest to the farmer to give more attention to the raising of these crops and we are certain that the factory

MAKE KNOWN THEIR DESIRE

French Would Have United States
Send Soldiers to France.

CONFERENCES HELD AT CAPITAL

Measures to Cope With the Destruction of Hospital Ships Among the First Questions to Be Taken Up by the British and French Commissioners—Viviani Issues Statement to the American Press.

Washington, April 27.—Marshall Joffre and members of his staff and Secretary Baker, General Scott, chief of staff, and several other American army officers held a conference at the home of Henry White, former American ambassador to France, where the French visitors are being entertained as the guests of the nation.

France is known to desire the sending of an American expeditionary force to co-operate with her armies, and Marshall Joffre came to the United States prepared to give reasons for the opinion of French military experts that the sending of such a force is advisable.

Admiral Chocheprat, representing the French navy, saw Admiral Benson, chief of operations, today. Marshal Joffre, accompanied by his staff, will go to the army war college this evening and at the same time Admiral Chocheprat will visit the navy yard. An hour later M. Viviani will visit the United States supreme court.

There were other conferences during the day between American and French experts on military, naval, financial and commercial questions. It is considered probable that unless present plans are disturbed, the conferences may be concluded by next Tuesday.

Several members of the French mission are most anxious to visit some of the larger American cities and some of the historic spots connected with American history. It is opportunity presents itself, they may visit Philadelphia, New York, Chicago, Valley Forge and Boston.

Measures to cope with the continued destruction of hospital ships by German submarines will be among the first questions taken up by the British and French commissions. The only means open to France and Great Britain is to decrease the number of hospital ships and thus minimize the risk. In order to do that it will be necessary to establish greater facilities for caring for greater quantities of allied wounded in France instead of transporting them across the channel.

In a statement to the American press Rene Viviani, France's vice premier and head of the war commission, said the co-operation of the United States would mean not only a military victory, which already was assured, but a victory of morality and right. Expressing deep gratitude for the enthusiastic reception given his mission here, M. Viviani said he realized it was "not to us, but to our beloved and heroic France."

Remember Clean-up Day.

The Public Owes a Big Debt

To Progressive Manufacturers—The Mersman Bros. Brandts Co. of Celina, Notable Example of Successful Industrial Enterprise, Accompanied by Civic Pride, Has Added to Growth and Prosperity of Celina and Mercer County.

In this comprehensive review of Mercer county's onward progress, it is with a feeling of satisfaction and pride that we direct your attention to a local company which represents the acme of perfection in twentieth century manufacture and which reigns supreme in its field. We refer to The Mersman Bros. and Brandts Co. whose large and modern plant is located in Celina and which is one of the foremost concerns of the world in this branch of manufacture.

The large factory of this company represents the very last word in scientific production and is equipped with the very best of modern machinery. The Mersman Bros. and Brandts Co. has stood as a commercial barometer in the community for many years. As almost all of its business is transacted in a territory that is foreign to Celina and Mercer county one might think that such a concern would take little interest in the affairs of the city in which it is located. The years have proven, however, that The Mersman Bros. and Brandts Co. is one of the most important features in local commercial affairs and that its management is at all times actively interested in Celina and Mercer county's progress. When a natural business depression was given impetus by the war in Europe there were few concerns that did not feel the effects very painfully. Regardless of this, however, this company continued to employ its force.

It is such firms as this one that make a city prosperous and worth while. Though most of the business is foreign, yet this is all the better for Celina and Mercer county, as it brings foreign money into the local field and it is in turn deposited in our banks, paid out to our merchants, and finally finds its way into the pockets of the many.

There is not an establishment in the county which is of greater value to us than The Mersman Brothers and Brandts Co. By opening up channels of trade that had heretofore been unknown to local industry this concern has now become one of the leading establishments in this branch of manufacture in the United States. Realizing at the start that the market for its products is practically without limit, the company set out to serve the entire country. By progressive, conservative business methods their business has been increased

and their output has grown to large proportions. Quick to appreciate the value to the city of such a large and progressive concern the people of Mercer county have always been loyal in their support of this institution which gives employment to a large number of men and women and which brings business and trade activity through its tireless efforts.

At the head of this large concern are Messrs. Ed, Walter and Albert Mersman and Edmund Brandts. These men have always had at heart the best interests of Celina and Mercer county and have done their best at all times to serve the people to their best advantage. Under their acute business direction the plant has prospered and expanded.

There can be no doubt that the local public owes a debt of gratitude and appreciation to The Mersman Brothers and Brandts Co. and we are proud in this review of local business and industrial efficiency and progress to point to this concern as one of the leading enterprises of the world in its special line of manufacture, and one of Celina and Mercer county's most valuable assets.

MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, It has been ordained by the Council of the Village of Celina, O., that the first Tuesday in May of each year is to be observed as a day of clean-up day in said Village, and

Whereas, The Mayor is authorized and ordered to make proclamation of the same ten days prior thereto.

Therefore, I, S. S. Scranston, Mayor of the said Village of Celina, do hereby request every able bodied man, woman and child of said Village between the ages of six and ninety years to utilize a part of Tuesday, the 1st day of May 1917 to collect and assemble all refuse and rubbish on or about the premises occupied by them and place same in barrels or boxes near or convenient to any alley or street, and that the Street Commissioner and his assistants remove such garbage and refuse on said day and the days immediately following.

Let us also give special heed to the waste paper nuisance. Let all citizens, young or old join in the effort not only to help make Celina clean but to keep it clean by refraining from leaving waste paper half burned in the alleys or scattering it on the streets.

IT IS FURTHER REQUESTED AND ORDERED that all property owners and tenants shall keep all property of which they are possessed and all adjacent thereto free from rubbish and garbage after said Clean-up day or same will be done by the Village and the expense of same will be charged against the property owner or tenant and collected as taxes. Given under my hand and seal this 15th day of April A. D. 1917.

S. S. SCRANSTON, Mayor.

BUCKEYE NEWS NOTES

MATTERS OF GENERAL INTEREST TO RESIDENTS OF OHIO.

Heavy Crops Promised.
Columbus, April 26.—Ohio farmers are working harder than ever before and the food production of the state in 1917 promises to be 25 per cent more than last year, said George A. Stauffer, retiring secretary of the state board of agriculture, after touring in an auto seventeen counties in the northwestern part of the state. Increased production will come from greater intensity of farming rather than increased acreage, although the latter is an important factor, he said. Shortage of farm labor was said to be prevalent.

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